

NOMENCLATURAL CHANGES IN NORTH AMERICAN *ANTHONOMUS* (COLEOPTERA: CURCULIONIDAE)¹

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ABSTRACT: New synonymy cited in the genus *Anthonomus* of America North of Mexico is as follows: *Sexarthrus* Blatchley (= nominate subgenus of *Anthonomus* Germar); *Anthonomus costulatus* Suffrian (= *Anthonomus elegans* LeConte); *Anthonomus disjunctus* LeConte (= *Anthonomus blatchleyi* Schenkling & Marshall); *Anthonomus signatus* Say (= *Anthonomus scutellatus* Gyllenhal); *Anthonomus stolatus* Fall (= *Anthonomus mimicanus* Fall); *Anthonomus tenuis* Fall (= *Epimechus gracilis* Fall); *Anthonomus suturalis* J.E. LeConte (= *Anthonomus flavicornis* Boheman, *Anthonomus hicoriae* Pierce, *Anthonomus vespertinus* Dietz). Lectotypes are designated for *A. costulatus*, *A. elegans*, *A. stolatus* and *A. vespertinus*. *Anthonomus lecontei* is proposed as a new name for *A. variegatus* LeConte 1876, not Suffrian 1871.

DESCRIPTORS: Coleoptera, Curculionidae, North American, *Anthonomus*, *Epimechus*, *Sexarthrus*, synonymy, lectotypes, new name.

The following synonymy in *Anthonomus* Germar is presented at this time so that the proposed changes may be incorporated into the forthcoming Catalog of Coleoptera of America North of Mexico being sponsored jointly by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Smithsonian Institution. Lectotypes are also designated where necessary. Types representing the various names involved in the synonymy have been examined; these are deposited in the following collections: Museum of Comparative Zoology (MCZC); Purdue University (PURC); Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet, Stockholm (NRS); U.S. National Museum of Natural History (USNM); Zoologisches Institut, Halle (ZIH).

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Anthonomus Germar

Anthonomus Germar 1817:340. Type species: *Curculio pedicularius* L., designated by Dieckmann 1969:689.

Sexarthrus Blatchley, 1916:311 (as subgenus). Type species: *Anthonomus subfasciatus* LeConte, designated by Blatchley 1930:29. NEW SYNONYM of nominate subgenus.

Blatchley (1916) described *Sexarthrus* as a subgenus of *Anthonomus* to contain 10 eastern North American species having the antennal funicle 6 segmented. Most of the species included are not especially closely related and eventually will have to be redistributed among several other taxa of the Anthonomini. A type species was not originally designated for *Sexarthrus* but Blatchley (1930) subsequently designated *Anthonomus subfasciatus* LeConte for this purpose. The latter species should be assigned to the *Anthonomus signatus* Species - Group of the nominate subgenus, consequently, *Sexarthrus* must be considered a synonym of the subgenus *Anthonomus*. The number of funicular segments alone is not a reliable character on which to base subgenera of *Anthonomus*.

Anthonomus costulatus Suffrian

Anthonomus costulatus Suffrian, 1871:137. Lectotype here designated: male; *Anthonomus costulatus*/Cuba/39254; in ZIH.

Anthonomus elegans LeConte, 1876:202. Lectotype here designated: male, Haulover Fla./March 10/Type 1949/J.L. LeConte coll.; in MCZC. NEW SYNONYMY.

Gates and Burke (1972) discussed the confusion which has existed concerning the application of the names *Anthonomus costulatus* Suffrian and *Anthonomus irroratus* Dietz. Up to time of publication of that paper the latter name had generally been considered as a synonym of *A. costulatus*; however, examination of pertinent type material indicated that both are valid names. It was further revealed during the study of these types that *A. elegans* LeConte is a junior synonym of *A. costulatus*.

Anthonomus disjunctus LeConte

Anthonomus disjunctus LeConte, 1876:204.

Anthonomus blatchleyi Schenkling & Marshall, 1934:40 (= *A. australis* Blatchley 1925:98, not Boisduval 1835:417). NEW SYNONYMY.

Burke (1971) indicated that *A. blatchleyi* was possibly a synonym of *A. disjunctus* but adequate material to make a decision was not available at that time. Additional specimens of significance to the solution of the problem were subsequently provided by D.B. Gates who reared a series assignable to *A. disjunctus* from the same plant species in Harrison Co., Miss. This series shows considerable variability in size (2.0 - 3.5 mm.) and color pattern. Some of the smaller specimens closely resemble the type of *A. blatchleyi* while the larger, more distinctly vittate specimens are similar to the lectotype of *A. disjunctus*. In view of this I consider the type of *A. blatchleyi* to be a depauperate, teneral specimen of *A. disjunctus*.

A second male specimen in the LeConte series of *A. disjunctus* bearing a yellow disc and the labels "Type 2064" and "J.L. LeConte coll." is designated a paralectotype.

Anthonomus lecontei Burke, New Name

Anthonomus scutellatus: LeConte, 1876:198, not Gyllenhal 1836:342.

Anthonomus variegatus LeConte, 1876:199, not Suffrian 1871:139.

LeConte (1876) recognized the possibility that weevils which he considered as *A. scutellatus* might not be conspecific with Gyllenhal's *A. scutellatus* and, consequently, suggested that if the two proved to be distinct the species he treated could be known as *A. variegatus*. Subsequent authors followed LeConte in assignment of this rather common northeastern and northcentral U.S. weevil to *A. scutellatus*. As it turned out upon comparison of the type of *A. scutellatus* Gyllenhal with considerable material of *A. scutellatus* of LeConte and subsequent authors, the two indeed represent different species. *A. variegatus* LeConte is an available name but is preoccupied by *Anthonomus variegatus* Suffrian, therefore, LeConte's species must be renamed. The type series of *A. lecontei* consists of 8 specimens in the LeConte Collection (MCZC) as follows: 2 females and 1 male, each of which bears a yellow disc and, in addition, 1 of the females is also labeled "*A. scutellatus* Gyll." in LeConte's handwriting; 1 male bearing pink disc; 1 male labeled "Cambr./21.2.74/L."; 1 female bearing orange disc; and 2 males labeled "1458."

LeConte (1876) listed the species from "Massachusetts, Texas, Missouri." The specimen bearing the pink disc, and the one labeled "Cambr[idge]" are

probably the Massachusetts specimens listed. Those bearing the yellow discs are probably the Missouri specimens; the female with the handwritten label "A. scutellatus Gyll." is herein selected as lectotype. It is not clear which of these, if any, represent the Texas record. LeConte's orange disc designates the southeastern U.S. and his designation for Texas was a dark blood red disc which is not represented in the series. The origin of the 2 males labeled "1458" is not known.

Anthonomus signatus Say

Anthonomus signatus Say, 1831:25.

Anthonomus scutellatus Gyllenhal, 1836:342. Type: male, Typus/scutellatus Say/Missuri; in NRS. NEW SYNONYMY.

A. scutellatus Gyllenhal discussed in connection with *A. lecontei* above proves to be a junior synonym of *A. signatus* Say. This synonymy was determined by comparison of the type of *A. scutellatus* with numerous specimens considered to represent Say's species.

Anthonomus stolatus Fall

Anthonomus stolatus Fall, 1901:264. Lectotype here designated: Female; San Diego Co. Cal./Type stolatus/MCZ Type 25176. In H.C. Fall Collection, MCZ.

Anthonomus mimicanus Fall, 1913:54. NEW SYNONYMY.

Four other specimens (2 females, 2 males) of *A. stolatus* in the Fall Collection bearing the same locality data as the lectotype are designated paralectotypes. Examination of type material representing these two names and numerous other specimens from Arizona and California substantiates this synonymy.

Anthonomus tenuis Fall

Anthonomus tenuis Fall, 1913:57.

Epimechus gracilis Fall, 1913:59. NEW SYNONYMY.

Fall (1913) recognized the close similarity of the weevils which he

described under these two names, but placed them in separate genera on the basis of what he thought were differences in the tarsal claws; the claws of *E. gracilis* were supposedly simple while those of *A. tenuis* were toothed. Examination of the types of both species indicated that both have toothed claws. The teeth on the claws of the *E. gracilis* type are minute and difficult to see because of the legs being encased in glue, but are visible at high magnification. The teeth can also be seen in other specimens of the type series of *E. gracilis*. There is a slight difference in location of the antennae of the two male types, as noted by Fall, but in a series the position of antennal insertion is found to be variable; therefore, it is not considered as a reliable character for recognition of species in this case.

Anthonomus suturalis J.E. LeConte

Anthonomus suturalis J.E. LeConte, 1824:171.

Anthonomus flavicornis Boheman, 1843:231. NEW SYNONYMY.

Anthonomus vespertinus Dietz, 1891. Lectotype here designated: Jacksonville, Fla. 13.5/Type 2041/W.G. Dietz Coll./; in MCZC. NEW SYNONYMY.

Anthonomus hicoriae Pierce, 1908: 175. NEW SYNONYMY.

Types of all of the species listed above have been examined. A series of *A. suturalis* collected on the leaves of a pecan tree at Gonzales, Texas by C.L. Cole was of special importance in determining this synonymy. Specimens in this series ranged from completely unicolorous individuals to those with a reddish area of varying size on each elytron; the latter color pattern is typical of *A. suturalis*. The types of *A. flavicornis*, *A. vespertinus* and *A. hicoriae* are unicolorous above as are a large number of the Gonzales specimens of *A. suturalis*. I am unable to find any characters which will consistently separate these from *A. suturalis*.

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